

J. R. Kinghorn, *The Snakes of Australia*, 1929, gives 5 or 6 ft. as the maximum length. However the species grows to a much larger size but as precise measurements of these reptiles are not often recorded it may be of interest to set down particulars of two specimens recently examined by Mr. N. E. Stewart and myself. These two were killed at Keane's rockhole on The Hooley Station, in the Roebourne Tableland, on December 6, 1952. One specimen measured 12 feet when stretched out and weighed 19 lb.; the other was 12 ft. 1 in. and weighed 20½ lb. Both were males, had empty stomachs and were in very fat condition. The pythons were lying submerged in the water of the pool when first discovered. We were informed that considerably larger specimens are met with. F. Lawson Whitlock in his account of a visit to Millstream Station on the Fortescue River (*The Emu*, vol. 22, 1923, p. 272) describes killing an 11 ft. specimen and mentions that pythons up to 18 ft. in length have been obtained.

The name of the rock python among the local natives (the Injee-bundee people) is "pug-oon-jee."

—D. L. SERVENTY, Nedlands.

Re-discovery of *Hyperoedesipus plumosus* at Moondyne Spring.

—During a trip down the Avon River at Easter 1952 our party went across the valley range to Moondyne Spring, situated on a tributary of the Avon about 30 miles from Perth. Here we collected a small crustacean which, on later examination by Mr. K. Sheard, proved to be the rare underground Phreatoicid isopod, *Hyperoedesipus plumosus*, hitherto known only from the type locality, a small pool just below the Lesmurdie Falls (Nicholls and Milner, *Journ. & Proc. Roy. Soc., W.A.*, vol. 10, 1924, pp. 23-24).

The circumstances of the original discovery suggested to the authors that *Hyperoedesipus* was "a subterranean form, which gets carried from crevices underground by the rush of water during the rainy season." It was found on two separate occasions in August 1923 and despite searches in later years was only found again in the same place in 1941 (G. E. Nicholls, "The Phreatoicoidea, Part 1," *Papers & Proc. Roy. Soc. Tasmania for 1942*, 1943, p. 56).

Moondyne Spring is bare of any plant growth, except for a clump of rushes at the outlet end. There is a large bed of bracken above and flooded gum saplings surround but do not over-shadow it. Water bubbles up from the ground in a number of holes both within and just outside of the main pool, and it was in one of these holes, about 15 in. in diameter, that the little crustaceans were found. As the water was muddy I dug out the hole a little deeper, to obtain clear water, and in doing so became aware of the Phreatoicids, which were quite plentiful. About 60 specimens were collected in less than a quarter of an hour. Some of them were whitish-translucent whilst others were of a brownish-olive tint. It is suggested that the former were individuals which were of truly subterranean habit whilst the pigmented ones were living as burrowers in the bottom mud.

—W. H. BUTLER, Inglewood.